

BEIJING REVIEW

北京周報

A CHINESE WEEKLY OF
NEWS AND VIEWS

- Fighting Cultural Contamination
- Hydroelectric Development in China
- Democratic Parties Aid Modernization



LETTERS

and responsible about the facts and figures you offer.

Jose Luis Diaz Mira
Madrid, Spain

several Chinese who were from Taiwan Province. They all expressed frankly their hope that they could have free exchanges with the mainland. They said only a few officials opposed this.

Moriyuki Akita
Kyoto, Japan

Articles by Deng Xiaoping

Deng Xiaoping on China's Reunification

I have been reading your series of articles taken from the *Selected Works of Deng Xiaoping*. I really feel that he gave careful consideration to analysing the great changes in China's political, economic and social structures which will carry you through to an advanced phase. His statement on implementing the principle of economic readjustment and bringing China to reach its goal of four modernizations is of great value and authoritativeness. On the other hand, I am glad to see that in the pages of your magazine, you also carry articles on the various problems encountered in realizing this goal.

The *Selected Works of Deng Xiaoping* is a document which succeeds in reflecting China's attitudes in the context of today's world with your particular perspective.

I always appreciate articles appearing in your publication because I can see you are impartial

At a meeting with Dr. Winston L.Y. Yang on June 26 this year, Deng Xiaoping, Chairman of the Chinese Communist Party's Central Advisory Commission, put forward some magnanimous proposals for the reunification of China. He suggested neither side should try to impose a settlement on the other. They should respect each other, so as to bring about co-operation for the third time [See "Deng Xiaoping on China's reunification" in issue No. 32]. Most of the Japanese people and I greatly admire these principles.

We feel more indebted to the Chinese people for their kindness at the end of the Second World War than we can express in words. I am expecting the reunification of China. There is no need to discuss that China will be unified by the government elected by the majority of the Chinese people.

During my trip to Oceania in March this year, I had talks with

Crackdown on Crime

I am always glad to receive *Beijing Review*. In your recent issues you've carried articles about the crackdown on those who commit serious crimes. I was deeply impressed by your articles. What a difference between your country and mine! In my country, which claims to be run by a socialist government, an offender is treated like a star. People in big cities dare not go out after nine o'clock for fear of being robbed by some young hoodlums. Viewed in this way, we can see the advantages of a true socialist system.

Julien Truchet
France

More on Commerce

I have been a reader of *China Reconstructs*, and have therefore received information concerning the great changes in China's agriculture and industry in recent years. I became a subscriber to *Beijing Review* last March. Your column "Industry and Economy" also deals extensively with these subjects.

But you publish few articles about the development of China's third industry — commerce, its influence on the national economy and the relationships between China and other countries.

I noticed that *Beijing Review* has published many articles on China's industry. We hope, if you agree, to see more articles on China's participation in international sports competitions. Don't forget readers living in Africa. My friends and I also hope you will publish more analysis of the international situation, about which we are very much concerned.

Dagbenyo Mawuli
Atakpame, Togo

A Turning Point in Chinese History

Zhou Enlai and the Xian Incident

— An Eyewitness Account

by Luo Ruiqing, Lu Zhengcao & Wang Bingnan

This booklet records the outbreak, development and peaceful settlement of the Xian Incident, in which Chiang Kai-shek and dozens of his high-ranking officials were detained by two patriotic Kuomintang generals who tried to compel the former to resist Japan. It describes Zhou Enlai's contribution to the settlement of the incident in the interests of the Chinese nation.

The personal experience of the authors, who were all witnesses to the Xian Incident and suppliers of the first-hand material, make this booklet interesting reading.

Published by Foreign Languages Press, Beijing
Distributed by China Publications Centre (Guoji Shudian),
P.O. Box 399, Beijing, China

BEIJING REVIEW

Published every Monday by
BEIJING REVIEW
24 Baiwanzhuang Road, Beijing
The People's Republic of China

Vol. 26, No. 45 November 7, 1983

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Distributed by China Publications
Centre (GUOJI SHUDIAN),

P. O. Box 399, Beijing, China

Subscription prices (1 year):

Australia A. \$12.00 USA US\$13.00

New Zealand . . NZ. \$14.00 UK £6.00

Canada Can. \$15.00

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Opposing Superpower Missile Deployment

Hu Yaobang, the Party's General Secretary, expresses firm support for a worldwide movement against the deployment of nuclear missiles in Europe and Asia by the superpowers (p. 7).

Principles of Capital Punishment Clarified

In dealing with criminals, the Chinese Communist Party and Government have always held to the principle of combining punishment with education to reform most offenders. Severe punishment, including the death penalty, is meted out only to a few felons. This measure is intended to prevent further crimes, protect the people, and ensure a stable social order (p. 4).

Clearing Cultural Contamination

Deng Liqun, a leading Communist who heads the Propaganda Department of the CPC Central Committee, explains the important question of ideological pollution and other problems related to Party consolidation (p. 13).

US Invasion of Grenada Condemned

After reviewing the US invasion of Grenada, a *Renmin Ribao* commentator concludes that it is a gross violation of the UN Charter and basic international behaviour, calling it "an act of power politics, of a strong country bullying a weaker one" (p. 9).

Democratic Parties Aid Modernization

The eight democratic parties in China have promoted the modernization drive by providing expertise and know-how for government organizations, enterprises and other undertakings. They have co-operated closely with the ruling Communist Party of China and have grown in strength in recent years (p. 22).

Future of Hydroelectric Development

China plans to quadruple its electric generating capacity in the next 20 years. A correspondent looks at the nation's rich hydropower resources, existing power stations and plans for future use of water power (p. 14). A report from Shandong and Zhejiang shows how the provincial governments are speeding up electric power development (p. 16).



A Hydropower station under construction.

Woodcut by Chen Jinrong

NOTES FROM THE EDITORS

On capital punishment

During the current nationwide crackdown on crime, a number of criminals have been sentenced according to law, and a few who had committed severe crimes were executed.

These executions, which occurred almost simultaneously in many parts of China, have been the subject of sensational reports in some foreign newspapers, and have evoked various comments and speculations. Some kindhearted people who were unaware of the truth have asked whether China has abandoned the principle of reforming criminals and has gone to extremes.

In dealing with criminals, the Chinese Communist Party and the People's Government have consistently held to the principle of combining punishment with education, striving to reform the majority of offenders and help them mend their ways. At the same time, China thinks that today capital punishment cannot and should not be abolished, but the number of death sentences should be extremely small.

Early in 1951, the Party Central Committee and its late Chairman Mao Zedong suggested we reduce death sentences to a minimum. Chairman Mao had a famous saying: "Once a head is chopped off, history shows it can't be restored, nor can it grow again as chives do, after being cut. If you cut off a head by mistake, there is no way to rectify the mistake, even if you want to."

The Criminal Law of the People's Republic of China enacted

in 1979 has cut down the number of provisions on offences which warrant a death sentence while still retaining the option of a temporary suspension of execution, a practice unique to China. In fact, the majority of criminals who have been sentenced to death with a reprieve show repentance during the term of reprieve, and are later resented to life or fixed-term imprisonment.

In September this year, the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress—the legislative body of the state—decided to revise and amend related clauses in the Criminal Law. It decided to impose severe punishments, including the death sentence, on offenders who cause grave harm to the social order. Those who will be severely punished include leaders of gangs committing serious acts of hooliganism, those who intentionally injure others and cause grievous injury or death, and those who assault or injure state functionaries or citizens who inform against, expose and pursue criminals or try to stop criminal activities. In addition, capital punishment will be imposed on culprits who abduct women and children, illegally manufacture, traffic in, transport, steal or seize firearms, ammunitions or explosives in serious cases, and those who teach others to commit serious crimes.

These necessary revisions and amendments have been made in keeping with China's current state of social order. Although our social order has improved recently, in many places it has

not yet returned to the state it was before the "cultural revolution." Some hooligan groups have been expanded, and such crimes as murder, robbery, rape and burglary still occur frequently, to the great dissatisfaction of the people.

Meting out stern punishment, including the death penalty, to criminals, will not only give these lawbreakers what they deserve, but will also serve as a warning to other offenders and prevent further crimes. Only in this way can we protect our people's personal security and democratic rights.

So far, only a very small number of felons have been executed. The departments concerned report that the number of offenders who have been executed in the last few years (including very recently) is far smaller than the number of innocent people these felons have slain. Many other criminals who also deserve the death sentence but have shown repentance have been sentenced to death with reprieve.

Reports coming in from all parts of China say that in the last two months the crime rate has dropped dramatically, and the people feel much safer. Stories about citizens supporting the campaign by bringing food and drink to public security officers and judicial workers on duty, and about the masses lighting firecrackers to hail the punishment of criminals, can be heard throughout the country.

Anybody without bias who is really concerned with the welfare of the people in this part of the world will feel pleased that China is cracking down on crime.

— Political Editor An Zhiguo

Democratic parties asked to help CP

Hu Yaobang, General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee, said he hoped non-Party public figures would raise comments and criticism and help in the Communist Party consolidation.

Speaking on Oct. 26 at a six-day forum sponsored by the CPC Central Committee, Hu said China's eight democratic parties and people without party affiliation have a wide range of social and intellectual experience to share. They are also politically experienced, because they have worked together with the Communist Party for decades.

"An important measure in preventing the present Party consolidation from proceeding in a superficial way is to listen attentively to the views and suggestions of these old friends," Hu told more than 270 leading non-Party figures.

The Central Commission for Guiding Party Consolidation will work out concrete guidelines on how to invite non-Party friends and the masses to assist the Party consolidation. Hu noted.

Hu Yaobang said the economic situation in the first 10 months of this year was better than last year. Leading bodies at and above prefectural and city levels have been reorganized, new headway has been made in foreign affairs, and public order and security have improved following the campaign against crime and economic irregularities. The people are happy about these improvements. This points to brighter prospects in all endeavours since the 12th Party Congress of 1982, he said. The Second Plenary Session of the 12th Party Central Committee mapped out the programme for

Party consolidation, and suggested strengthening political and ideological work and combating ideological pollution.

Hu Yaobang said he sincerely hoped non-Party public figures would make suggestions on government affairs, and help in the good management of the state.

The General Secretary said again that the current Party consolidation is aimed solely at solving problems within the Communist Party, and that the democratic parties are not required to do the same.

Many non-Party public figures at the forum said they would treat the Party consolidation with the attitude of "treating each other with all sincerity and sharing both good fortune and bad." The elimination of ideological pollution, raised by the Party Central Committee, is in complete agreement with the wishes of the people, they said. Non-Party figures offered many sincere opinions and suggestions on Party consolidation and the elimination of ideological pollution.

Deng Yingchao, Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, presided over the forum and expressed her thanks for the many suggestions offered, adding, "We will consider them carefully."

10th National Trade Union Congress ends

The 10th National Congress of Chinese Trade Unions closed successfully in Beijing on October 29.

Representatives to the meeting unanimously adopted the



Hu Yaobang speaks to the forum for non-Party public figures.

work report made by Ni Zhifu on behalf of the previous executive committee of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions (ACFTU). The work report set out the tasks for the Chinese trade unions in the next five years (see p. 5 in our last issue).

According to the decision of the congress, the Chinese trade unions will, on the basis of the principles of equality, independence and non-interference in each other's internal affairs, continue to develop friendly contacts with trade unions of various countries, support the just struggle of the workers and trade unions of various countries, and play a more positive role in the international workers' movement.

The meeting also adopted a new Constitution of Chinese Trade Unions, which clearly stipulates that trade unions in China should remain politically identical with the CPC Central Committee, while independently and responsibly developing their own work.

The congress elected the executive committee of the 10th ACFTU executive committee 241 members and 83 alternate members. Most of those elected are professional trade union workers, specialists in fields closely related to trade unions, and model workers.

The first meeting of the 10th ACFTU executive committee elected a 34-member presidium. Ni Zhifu was re-elected president of the committee and first secretary of the secretariat of the ACFTU. Gu Dachun and six others were elected vice-presidents of the executive committee, and Wei Jianxing and nine others, members of the secretariat.

The congress commended 115 advanced grass-roots trade unions, 990 advanced trade

union groups and 9,954 outstanding trade union workers who have performed outstandingly in the last five years, and called upon the trade unions and trade union workers all over the country to learn from them.

Hu Yaobang, Deng Xiaoping, Peng Zhen, Deng Yingchao, Ulanhu and other Party and state leaders met all the representatives before the congress closed.

Central Advisory Commission's tasks

The establishment of the Central Advisory Commission of the Communist Party of China last year has made it possible for a large number of younger capable cadres of political integrity to take up leading central posts, Bo Yibo, Vice-Chairman of the commission, told the monthly magazine "Liaowang" (*Observation Post*.)

He said the commission serves as a transition from the lifelong tenure of leading cadres to a retirement system. The Party Constitution stipulates, "The Party's Central Advisory Commission acts as a political assistant and consultant to the Central Committee."

Bo Yibo also spoke of the commission's main tasks:

- The commission has undertaken the work entrusted to it by the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, taken part in the arrangements for appointments of cadres to the Sixth National People's Congress, the Sixth National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, and the State Council. It has joined in the reform of

government organizations at various levels and in the preparatory work to establish China's economic planning areas. It has participated in discussions of the Party's history in north-west China and investigations into the problems in former revolutionary base areas.

- It has made valuable suggestions concerning the Party's major policies and principles, including economic policies in the rural areas and the methods and principles of the current Party consolidation.

- It has made thorough investigations into various fields of society. Sixty members of the commission have in the past year presented their investigation reports and put forward their suggestions on improvement of work.

- The commission has read and edited materials on Party history, and written the series *Contemporary China*, and revolutionary memoirs.

Bo also noted that, in accordance with the opinions of the Secretariat of the Central Committee, the commission will focus on making investigations and assisting with the work in the following fields: the selection and promotion of younger, capable cadres, rectification of the Party's style of work and discipline, united front work, implementation of policies towards non-Party people and intellectuals, research on Party history and education in revolutionary traditions, arrangements for retired veteran cadres and monitoring how the Party's policies and principles are implemented.

Bo pointed out that the basis of the work of the Central Advisory Commission is political

agreement with the Party Central Committee. The commission will fulfil its historical mission in about 10 to 15 years, when a suitable retirement sys-

tem is established for the normal succession of old cadres by the new and this transitional form of organization will thus become unnecessary.

Hu backs anti-nuclear movement

China supports the campaigns being launched by people throughout the world to stop the superpowers from deploying nuclear missiles in Europe and Asia. As long as the people persist in their struggle, their objective can be achieved, said Hu Yaobang, General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee, on Oct. 24 when he met with a delegation from the National Council of the Romanian Socialist Democracy and United Front.

Hu also praised the Front's efforts to educate its people in patriotism and peace, and noted

that China and Romania have steadily developed friendly, trusting relations and they support each other.

Tamara Dobrin, head of the delegation and Executive Chairman of the Front's National Council, said there has been a greater frequency and variety of exchanges between the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and the Front.

"We hope to make further efforts to strengthen and expand co-operation in all fields with the Chinese comrades and will devote ourselves to it," she said.

Deng Yingchao, Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, met with the delegation on Oct. 18.

Hungarian minister of trade in China

Vice-Premier Wan Li has told Hungarian Minister of Foreign Trade Peter Veress that China would like to exchange experiences with Hungary, which has had great success in reforming its economic system, so that both countries can learn from each other.

Socialist countries can carry out their economic construction successfully only by combining the fundamental principles of Marxism with their specific conditions, said Wan at the Oct. 22 meeting.

Veress said Hungary's reform of its economic system had also gone through an experimental process, and it was looking for still better ways of developing. "In this regard, we hope to learn from the experiences of China and other socialist countries as well," he said.

Veress, the highest Hungarian official to visit China in the past two decades, arrived in Beijing on Oct. 21 for a seven-day visit at the invitation of Chen Muhua, the Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade.

Chen and Veress held talks on Oct. 22 on furthering the development of bilateral economic relations and trade. The two sides reviewed the development of bilateral trade over the past three decades since their establishment of diplomatic relations.



Hu Yaobang meets Tamara Dobrin and her delegation.

Both sides agreed that there had been an overall increase in trade between the two countries during this period despite decreases at times. The volume of trade will increase this year by a large margin over last year's volume. Economic and technological co-operation between the two countries has also got off to a good start.

The two ministers pointed to certain potentials for the development of economic relations and trade between the two countries and they agreed to adopt positive measures to push ahead with bilateral economic and technological co-operation and trade.

US textile petition called 'groundless'

The Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade said on Oct. 27 it regrets that the US Commerce Department has accepted a petition from a group of American businessmen protesting against China's textile exports.

Certain US textile manufacturers and other parties charged in a petition dated Sept. 12 that China had granted government subsidies to manufacturers of textiles, garments and other related products exported to the United States. The petition asks the US Government to levy a countervailing duty to offset the alleged subsidies.

"China has neither subsidized any export commodity nor dumped goods on any foreign country," said a ministry spokesman.

A ministry statement called the petition "groundless" and a "subterfuge ... to distort China's current practices in foreign exchange control and internal financial settlement."

Pointing to the fact that China and the United States have fundamentally different social and economic systems, the statement said, "The trial use of foreign exchange prices for internal settlement of trade transactions is an economic measure adopted by China to meet the needs of opening to the outside world economically and of reforming its foreign trade management system.

"The same settlement prices apply to both imports and exports, to all import and export commodities, to the import and export trade with all countries and regions, and to all enterprises and corporations in the country."

The statement warned that "the basis of the economic and trade relations between the two countries would be endangered" if the petition were carried.

"To our deep regret," it continued, "the US Department of Commerce decided to accept the case despite China's serious negotiations. We hope that the US Government will carefully think over the extremely grave consequences that may arise. China will act according to the development of events."

Sino-Indian talks found to be beneficial

An atmosphere of friendliness, frankness and mutual understanding prevailed at the fourth round of Sino-Indian talks in New Delhi from Oct. 24 to 30.

Vice-Foreign Minister Gong Dafei and India's External Secretary K.S. Bajpai reviewed the previous rounds of talks and agreed that they had helped further mutual understanding, created a fine atmosphere and developed relations in the fields

of trade and economics, and cultural and scientific co-operation.

On the border issue, the two sides discussed ways to settle the problems and made efforts to find mutually acceptable points. They agreed that the talks were beneficial and conducive to further negotiations.

They also exchanged views on international problems of common interest and decided to hold their next round of talks in Beijing next year.

Useful talks held by China, USSR

A press communique on Oct. 29 said that the third round of Sino-Soviet consultations in Beijing "proceeded in a calm and candid atmosphere" and that "the two sides found the consultations useful."

The two vice-foreign ministers agreed to hold the next round of talks in Moscow in March 1984.

Answering questions from reporters at Beijing Airport when he saw Ilyichev and his party off on Oct. 29, Vice-Foreign Minister Qian said the latest round of talks was helpful in increasing mutual understanding.

But, he said, serious obstacles still hinder the normalization of relations. "There are still big differences," he said, adding that he is scheduled to travel to Moscow for the fourth round of consultations.

Ilyichev declined to answer reporters' questions.

Ilyichev met with Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian during his stay. They exchanged views on normalization and issues of common interest.

*United Nations***Viet Nam censured for 5th time**

THE UN General Assembly has adopted a resolution condemning Viet Nam for its invasion of Kampuchea and calling again on it to withdraw its occupation troops. The resolution — put forward by 49 countries including the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) — was carried on Oct. 27 by a vote of 105 to 23 with 19 abstentions. It was the fifth time Viet Nam has been condemned by the United Nations, an indication of how unpopular its aggressive and expansionist policy is.

The ASEAN countries (Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand) are close neighbours of Kampuchea. They recognize the gravity of the threat presented to peace and security in Southeast Asia by Viet Nam's aggression against Kampuchea. For five years they have refused to recognize the fait accompli of Viet Nam's occupation of Kampuchea, have supported the just struggle of the Kampuchean people against Vietnamese aggression and have actively sought to solve the Kampuchean question through reasonable UN resolutions. However, Hanoi, disregarding the appeals and demands of the international community, has stubbornly persisted in its aggressive and expansionist policies, refusing to implement the resolutions and withdraw its troops. That is the crux of the problem.

The UN General Assembly has once again adopted a resolu-

tion demanding the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea, which the international community holds to be the key to settling the conflict.

The Vietnamese authorities are expected to ignore the UN resolution. But they would be wise to recognize that debts must be paid. The UN resolutions are not empty papers, and the moral weight behind them

*Grenada***US armed invasion is condemned**

ON Oct. 25, the United States landed about 2,000 troops on tiny Grenada in the eastern Caribbean while that country was bogged down in internal turmoil. Fierce fighting immediately broke out between the Grenadian army and the US forces. This development in the Caribbean situation has shocked the international community and aroused great concern among the people of the world.

According to the Charter of the United Nations and the rules guiding international relations, a country's internal differences can only be solved by its people alone. No other country has the right to interfere. Any form of interference — subversion, the application of pressure, or direct armed invasion — is impermissible and firmly opposed by the international community.

Because the United States is a permanent member of the UN

should not be underestimated. These resolutions will act to officially encourage the Kampuchean people in their struggle against Hanoi and to mobilize world opinion against the invaders.

There are changes happening in the international situation, in Viet Nam's internal situation and on the Kampuchean battlefield. Let's see how long Hanoi clings to its obstinate course of refusing to carry out the UN resolutions.

— Ren Yan

Security Council, the onus is on it to abide by the principles of the UN Charter and to safeguard the rules of international relations. Its invasion of Grenada is a gross violation of the Charter and basic international behaviour. No pretext whatsoever justifies the outside interference in the internal affairs of Grenada, which can only be resolved by its people alone. The invasion is an act of power politics, of a strong country bullying a weaker one. This incident of violent interference cannot possibly restore order and stability in the Caribbean; it will only further complicate an already tense situation.

China has always upheld the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence guiding international relations and opposed outside interference. It strongly condemns the United States' armed intervention in Grenada and has called for the prompt withdrawal of US troops there. It demands that the Grenadian

people be allowed to settle their problems free from outside interference.

Central America and the Caribbean are among the most turbulent areas in the world today; but issues concerning the countries in these regions can be resolved only by themselves. Penetration and interference by the superpowers will only wor-

sen the tense situation. All questions and inner contradictions in these countries should be settled through peaceful negotiations. The United States must stop its armed intervention of Grenada, and the normal situation in this area must be restored.

— "Renmin Ribao"
Commentary, (Oct. 27)

Lebanon

Situation after the ceasefire

THE twin explosions in Beirut which killed 146 US marines and about 80 French soldiers on Oct. 23 have drawn strong reactions from all parties concerned, including the Lebanese Government. They complicate even further an already complex situation.

After the ceasefire agreement was reached on Sept. 26, there were signs of progress in the Lebanese situation. However, the ceasefire itself did not resolve all the contradictions in the Lebanese crisis, and violations of the ceasefire have continually occurred. It is obvious the agreement will not be easily implemented without an early national reconciliation.

In accordance with the agreement, the ceasefire on all fronts has been supervised by neutral observer troops stationed in Lebanon. The Lebanese Government's suggestion that the United Nations send troops received support from the United States and France. But the opposition factions in Lebanon and Syria resolutely rejected this proposal, because they thought it would set a precedent for UN intervention in Lebanon's internal affairs. Through the mediation of Saudi Prince Bandar bin Sultan, all the parties con-

cerned agreed that Italy and Greece would each send 400 soldiers to Lebanon to monitor the truce. Because the questions of who will command this unit, where it will be deployed and what role it will play remain unsettled, it is difficult to guarantee the actual implementation of the ceasefire agreement.

Under the agreement, the national reconciliation conference was supposed to have been held as soon as possible after the ceasefire agreement was signed. But, because the various factions could not agree on a location, the meeting was not scheduled until Oct. 31. Although the dispute over the conference location was not an essential question, it shows how deeply divided the factions are on some major issues. The Lebanese Government stressed that the conference would discuss the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Lebanon and opposed the idea that the conference might be used to distract attention from the problem of their continued presence. The Lebanese Salvation Front and other opposition factions demanded that the conference first discuss Israeli troop withdrawal from southern Lebanon. They also want to abol-

ish the Lebanese-Israeli agreement and revise the Democratic Constitution of 1943, which assigned power to the various religious sects.

Foreign influence has made the Lebanese situation more complex. Observers in Lebanon noted that Syria has played an important role in the ceasefire agreement and would participate in the Lebanese national reconciliation conference as an observer. Because Syria is the main force supporting the opposition factions in Lebanon, its attitude and views could significantly influence the conference.

Because of its presidential election next year, the United States has made efforts to promote the ceasefire agreement, hoping the truce would be maintained. Official US spokesmen have repeatedly expressed support for the legal government of Lebanon, and the US Congress decided that US marines would remain in Lebanon for 18 months. US President Ronald Reagan recently emphasized that the United States would never let the Middle East fall into the hands of the Soviet Union.

Moscow said that the ceasefire agreement is a positive step, but it is taking advantage of the fragile situation to weaken US influence and prepare for its return to the Middle East political arena. It is reported that the Soviet Union recently shipped a large number of sophisticated weapons into the Arab area, including SS-21 missiles. Israel has therefore asked the United States to provide Pershing missiles. People are afraid the US and Soviet arms race in the Middle East will further aggravate the tensions there.

— Chen Jichang, Zhou Guoming

*Soviet Union***Decision on missile deployment**

THE Soviet Union has decided to start preparatory work for the deployment of "operational-tactical missiles" in the German Democratic Republic (GDR) and Czechoslovakia. This is a serious escalation in the Soviets' rivalry with the United States for nuclear supremacy in Europe.

The Soviet decision, announced by the Defence Ministry on Oct. 24, comes at a time when Soviet-US relations have fallen to a new low and their arms race has intensified. Their negotiations in Geneva on intermediate-range nuclear missiles are deadlocked, with the numerous "proposals" from each side being attacked and rejected by the other. Both superpowers claim they want nuclear equilibrium, but in fact each is seeking to gain a nuclear advantage in Europe and the world. In these circumstances, neither is willing to make concessions readily.

As a result, the scheduled deployment of new US missiles in Western Europe seems inevitable. And because Moscow has found it impossible to prevent or delay the US deployment, it has decided to start preparing its own deployment in the GDR and Czechoslovakia as a "reciprocal measure."

The nuclear arms race in Europe is essential to the superpowers' bid for control of that continent. Their nuclear buildup in Europe has endangered the safety of the European people and increased the danger of nuclear war. Their race to de-

ploy new missiles in Europe will inevitably aggravate tensions in the region. This will cause anxiety among the world's people, Europeans especially, and will arouse their opposition.

In the past few days, millions in Western countries have taken to the streets, shouting

slogans of "No American or Soviet missiles!" and "No arms race!" This concentrated expression of their desire to maintain peace and prevent the outbreak of nuclear war, this powerful campaign to force the two superpowers to stop their deployment of nuclear missiles in Europe and the rest of the world, is supported solidly by the Chinese people.

— "Renmin Ribao"
Commentary (Oct. 27.)

Western Europe**Anti-nuclear movement growing**

ABOUT 2 million people held demonstrations and rallies across Western Europe on Oct. 22, protesting against the nuclear arms race and calling on the United States and the Soviet Union to immediately reduce their numbers of missiles and to eventually destroy all their nuclear weapons. In the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) alone, a million people were reported to have taken to the streets.

This wave of demonstrations, the biggest in Western Europe since World War II, marks a new upsurge in the West European people's opposition to the US and Soviet rivalry for nuclear superiority. The European people have had the bitter experience of two catastrophic world wars. The current struggle reflects their strong desire for peace in face of the threat of nuclear war. It is an important part of the world people's struggle against hegemonism.

In recent years, the two superpowers' rivalry for nuclear superiority has intensified. The Soviet Union, not content with having only SS-4s and SS-5s to counter the US Pershing I and Lance missiles, began six years ago to deploy the medium-range SS-20s in Europe. Today the number of SS-20 deployed is up to 243. The Soviet Union recently warned that if the United States deploys its new missiles in Europe at the end of this year as scheduled, it will not only increase the number of SS-20s: it will also deploy a new type of short-range missile in selected East European countries.

The United States, faced with Soviet nuclear escalation, is pushing ahead with its deployment of Pershing II and cruise missiles to match the Soviet SS-20s, including 108 Pershing IIs intended for the FRG as planned by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. If the FRG receives the US missiles, the

Soviet Union has threatened to make it a target of its missiles. Naturally the nuclear confrontation has increased Europeans' anxiety, especially among Germans.

West Europeans have repeatedly urged the Soviet Union and the United States to stop their nuclear arms race and to dismantle and destroy all their nuclear weapons in Europe. But the superpowers have

always turned a deaf ear to their plea.

Maintaining peace is the aspiration of people the world over and the trend of the times. The anti-nuclear movement sweeping Western Europe shows that the hegemonic policies of the superpowers are growing even more unpopular. It is dealing their nuclear folly a great blow.

—Xin Zong

came from the People's Democratic Union, which was made up of Siles' Nationalist Revolutionary Movement of the Left (MNRI), the Left Revolutionary Movement (MIR) headed by Vice-President Jaime Paz Zamora, and the Communist Party of Bolivia.

At the beginning of this year, the MIR wanted to readjust the government policies and carry out pluralist democratic politics under the leadership of Siles. But this was objected to by the MNRI. Disputes arose between the two sides, leading to the resignation of all six MIR ministers. That was the first cabinet crisis.

The second came last May when differences over economic and social issues arose within the MNRI, resulting in the resignation of three ministers—two from the MNRI and one independent.

The third crisis was the resignation en bloc of the cabinet on Aug. 5.

The present cabinet is marked by reconciliation. In addition to MNRI members, it includes Communists, members of the Christian Democratic Party and independents. However, faced with serious political and economic difficulties, the cabinet will find a rough road ahead.

Today the Bolivian people are yearning for a change. They seek the establishment of political democracy, the development of the economy, the elimination of poverty and improved standards of living.

The challenge facing the Bolivian Government as it enters its second year is whether it can unite democratic forces around it, surmount the economic difficulties and continue its "democratization."

—Liu Xiaolu

Bolivia

All uphill for civilian government

DESPITE its efforts to remedy the country's economic woes and apply political democracy, Bolivia's first civilian government in 18 years is facing difficulties.

President Hernan Siles took power in October 1982 from the military, which had ruled Bolivia since 1964. Since then, the main problems threatening the government have been the battered economy and the resulting widespread discontent.

GNP Decline

In the past year, the gross national product has continued to decline and unemployment has reached 900,000 out of a total population of 5.5 million. Production of tin, a staple export, has dipped together with a drop in the price of the commodity on world markets. This has resulted in a decrease in foreign exchange earnings, saddling the country with debts amounting to US\$4,000 million.

A serious drought has hurt agricultural production, forcing thousands of farmers into bankruptcy.

The economic difficulties have intensified social contradictions. To overcome the economic crisis and alleviate the social turbulence, the Siles government invited powerful trade unions to take part in a coalition government. The unions set certain conditions as prerequisites for negotiations. These included a halt in the payment of foreign debts, a break with the International Monetary Fund, the granting of rights to workers to supervise private businesses and a leading role for unions in decision-making organizations. These demands aroused anxiety in private business and military circles, and the Siles government, under internal and external pressure, turned them down. Negotiations collapsed.

Reconciliation

The Bolivian political situation has been unstable since last October. The cabinet has changed three times because of repeated differences within the government.

When the government was formed, its main components

Clearing Cultural Contamination

DENG LIQUN, Member of the Secretariat of the Chinese Communist Party's Central Committee, has recently explained the issue of cultural contamination and Party consolidation in a number of interviews with foreign correspondents.

In meeting Associated Press reporters on October 28, Deng Liqun, who is also head of the Central Committee's Propaganda Department, said that the issue of clearing away cultural contamination was raised long ago, but only recently became the focus of a concentrated effort.

This is closely linked with the forthcoming Party consolidation, he explained. The first task of the Party consolidation is to achieve unity of thinking, which calls for clearing away cultural contamination, he added.

He cited four main categories of cultural contamination:

- Spreading things which are obscene, barbarous or reactionary;

- Vulgar taste in artistic performances which does not give aesthetic enjoyment but rather makes people feel disgusted;

- Efforts to seek personal gain, indulgence in individualism, anarchism, liberalism, etc. The Constitution expressly provides for the rights and obligations of the citizen and it follows that no individual is permitted to harm the interests of the collective, the society and the state. There are indeed some people inside the Communist Party who took advantage of their power and positions to further their personal interests, to the detriment of others, the state and the society;

- Writing articles or delivering speeches that run counter to the country's social system which is explicitly laid out in the Constitution.

Activities under the first category involves criminal offences and must be banned in accordance with law, he said. The three other categories are all ideological problems and should be dealt with through education, criticism and self-criticism.

When asked about the purification of Party organizations, Deng Liqun said that the organizational objective of the Party consolidation is to expel members who have done grave harm to the interests of the Party. (These refer to those who rose to prominence through "rebellion" during the "cultural revolution," those who harbour seriously factionalist ideas, and those who indulged in beating, smashing and looting during the "cultural revolution," in addition to those who stubbornly oppose the policies of the Party Central Committee or who have committed serious criminal offences or violated Party discipline).

It is necessary to do a good job both in rectifying the Party and clearing away cultural contamination, he said. The Central Committee has pointed out the need to overcome weak and slack leadership; such leaders underestimate the harm these elements have done to the Party and are not fully aware of the importance of clearing away cultural contamination, and have failed to take resolute measures. In this sense, he said, Rightist tendency is to be opposed.

He said that only a small number of Party members will be expelled during the Party consolidation. To illustrate this point, he cited the earlier drive to strike at criminal offences in the economic field. Basing himself on a sample at hand, he hypothetically estimated that those who lose their membership in the drive against economic crimes across the country might be about 40,000.

In Party consolidation, the overwhelming majority of the Party members will be helped to raise their revolutionary consciousness and enhance their Party spirit through ideological education, including the form of criticism and self-criticism.

There are worries among friends abroad that the Party consolidation might go perfunctorily or that it might take up the form of the "cultural revolution," he said. But most of those leading the Party consolidation at all levels were themselves subjected to such methods during the "cultural revolution" and had suffered enough. "We will not do unto others what they did unto us," he said.

Deng Liqun traced the cultural contamination to domestic and foreign causes. On the domestic side, he said, the socialist system has been established in China and the exploiting class no longer exists as a class, but the influence of the old society still exists everywhere and has grown in the recent period.

China has followed a policy of opening to the outside world in the past few years. This policy has achieved remarkable successes but also created new problems. Those Communist Party members and cadres who have been affected by outside influence should be educated.

but eliminating cultural contamination will neither shake nor stop the open policy. Getting rid of decadence will only benefit the further development of China's economic and cultural exchanges with the outside world.

China has always insisted on an analytical approach towards things from the West, and will continue to accept the good while rejecting the bad, Deng Liqun said. Even advanced things should be adapted to China's national conditions rather than mechanically copied, he added. The open policy, he said, will be carried on and developed along an ever-broader path. □

Exploration of China's Water Power

by Lu Qinkan

WATER power is an important renewable, low-price energy resource that supplements China's coal and petrol.

Achievements

Mountains and hilly land occupy two-thirds of China's territory and most of the country has abundant precipitation. A recent general survey of its large and small rivers shows that China has the world's largest water resources — 378 million kw of explorable water power which can generate 1,920,000 million kwh annually.

China's construction of hydroelectric power stations has developed at a fairly quick pace in the past three decades from a quite poor basis. The installed capacity reached 22 million kw in 1982 from the 160,000 kw in 1949 when New China was founded. In the same period, the annual output of hydroelectricity rose to 72,000 million kwh from 700 million kwh, an increase of more than 100 times. Even at this rate, China has utilized only 3.8 per cent of its water power resources, and has great potential for further growth.

China now has 18 large hydroelectric power stations, each with an installed capacity of more than 250,000 kw. The biggest is the Liujiaxia power station on the upper reaches of the Huanghe (Yellow) River, with an installed capacity of 1.16 million kw. Other major hydro-

power stations include Gongzui and Wujiangdu in southwest China, Danjiangkou and Zhexi in central China, Xinanjiang in east China and Fengman in the northeast.

China also has built more than 100 medium-sized hydroelectric power stations, each with an installed capacity between 12,000 and 250,000 kw. Some 80,000 small hydropower stations have been built on smaller rivers and streams and by utilizing the water drop of irrigation reservoirs or channels. The larger of these have installed capacities of several thousand kw, the smaller ones generate only a few thousand watts. Among the nation's 2,300 counties, 1,478 have small hydroelectric power stations.

In the past 30 years or so, China has trained technical personnel for all aspects of hydropower generation, including planning, scientific research, surveying, designing, construction and operation. Today there are 250,000 people working in the water power field, including 10,000 engineers.

China has 15 high dams each exceeding 100 metres, the highest at 165 metres, and 25 tunnels each exceeding 2 kilometres, the longest being 8.6 kilometres. Most of the country's hydroturbine generating units are domestic products. The largest can generate 300,000 kw. These provide

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the technical and material conditions for building various types of large hydropower stations.

Characteristics

The amounts of water in China's rivers vary greatly from the flood seasons to the low water times of the year. Reservoirs are required to effectively utilize water resources for power generating and to co-ordinate it with multi-purpose development of flood prevention, irrigation, navigation and water supply. But China has a large population and comparatively little arable land. Inundation losses and the moving of residents present difficult problems. Thus, in mapping out plans for river development we must take these factors into consideration. We may build high dams and storage plants in sparsely populated mountainous areas, but run-of-river plants on the plains to complement each other. These two types of plants and thermal plants will together take the peak load.

Some of China's rivers carry large amounts of silt, creating obstacles for the construction of hydropower stations. The Sanmenxia project on the lower reaches of the Huanghe River built in the 50s had to undergo large-scale reconstruction due to swift sedimentation in its reservoir. Many sluices and tunnels were added to it for the discharge of silt. After reconstruction, the project is still effective in flood prevention and low water head power generating. Measures also were taken to decrease the silt-caused wear and tear on turbo-generators.

Most of China's water resources are in the mountainous areas in the western part of the country, far from its economically developed areas in the eastern plains. The opening of water power resources in the west will help promote local economic growth and transmit power through super-high voltage lines to the eastern areas. China's highest existent transmission line is 500 kw and is 800 kilometres long. Studies are being made to explore the possibility of transmitting more power over a longer distance by higher voltage AC and DC lines.

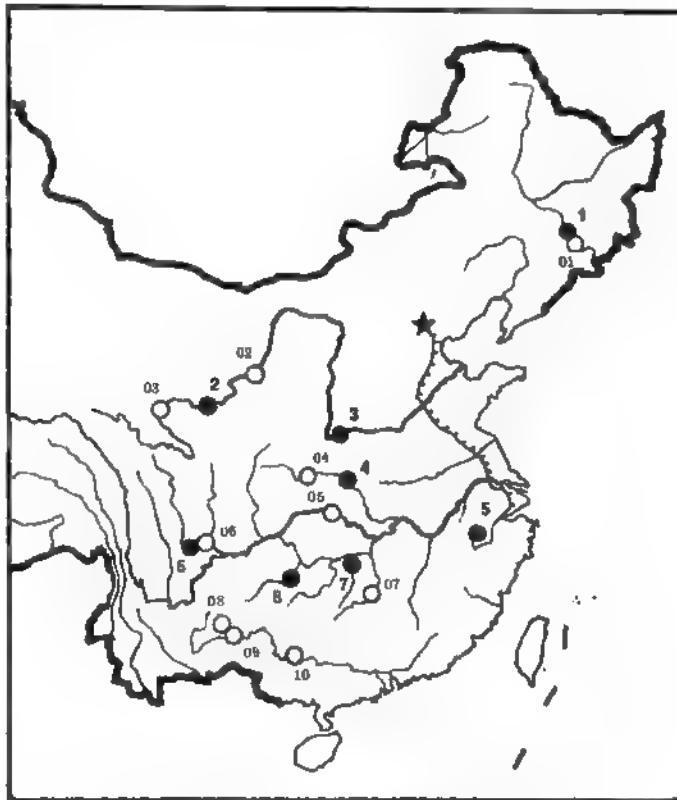
Plans

Eleven large hydroelectric power stations are under construction, with a total designed capacity of 9.48 million

kw. They will all be completed before 1990. The following are five of them.

The Gezhouba project on China's largest river, the Changjiang (Yangtze) River, is a low water head run-of-river plant with a total designed capacity of 2,715,000 kw from 21 generators. Its spillway has a flood-diversion capacity of 84,000 cubic metres per second. It also has three shiplocks for navigation.

The Longyangxia project on the upper reaches of the Huanghe River has a 177-metre-high dam which forms a 400-square kilometre man-made lake with a storage capacity of 26,800 million cubic metres on the northwest plateau. The lake can regulate the river run-off. The Longyangxia power station has a designed generating capacity of 1.28 million kw. The completion of the project will play an important



Large Hydropower Stations Being Completed

- | | | |
|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| 1. Fengman | 4. Danjiangkou | 7. Zhexi |
| 2. Luojiaxia | 5. Xinanjiang | 8. Wujiangdu |
| 3. Sanmenxia | 6. Gongzui | |

Large Hydropower Stations Under Construction

- | | | |
|----------------|--------------|------------------|
| 1. Baishan | 5. Gezhouba | 9. Tianshengqiao |
| 2. Qingtongxia | 6. Tongjiezi | 10. Dahua |
| 3. Longyangxia | 7. Dongjiang | |
| 4. Ankang | 8. Lubuge | |

role in accelerating economic construction in the northwest.

The high water head Tianshengqiao power station and the low water head Dahua power station are being built on the Hongshui River in south China. The former has a designed generating capacity of 880,000 kw and the latter 400,000 kw.

The power plant of the Baishan station in northeast China is being built underground, installed with 3 generators, each with a capacity of 300,000 kw.

In addition, many small and medium-sized hydropower stations are under construction.

China plans to quadruple its capacity of hydropower stations before the end of this century, that is, from 20 million kw in 1980 to 80 million kw by 2000. By that time, China will be able to utilize 13 per cent of its water power resources.

The best rivers for water power generation are those that have large flows with concentrated water drops, desirable geological conditions for dams and little inundation loss for reservoirs. They are major rivers which we are planning to explore in the next two decades of this century. For instance, China is going to build 16 big power stations with a total generating capacity of 12 million kw on the upper reaches of the Huanghe River. Four already have been completed, one is under construction and another four are being designed. Although the Huanghe River is known for its heavy silting, the upper reaches carry only 3 to 10 per cent of that on the lower reaches.

Ten other large hydropower stations with a total installed capacity of 10 million kw are

planned for the Hongshui River in south China. Three of them are under construction and four are being designed. The power generated will be used by the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and Guangdong Province.

In southwest China, the Dadu and Yalong Rivers on the upper reaches of Changjiang River each have a generating capacity of more than 10 million kw. The Ertan power station dam is 245 metres high and has a potential generating capacity of 3 million kw. Usually big power stations built on canyons like the Ertan need to have big turbo-generators with capacities of 500,000-600,000 kw each. The Wujiang and Lancang Rivers in that region each has a potential generating capacity of 5 million kw.

The famous Three Gorges project on the Changjiang River is being redesigned to lower the height of the dam due to the reservoir's serious inundation loss. As the Changjiang has a large flow, the project will still have a designed generating capacity of 10 million kw. The power it generates will be used for the economically developed areas in central and east China.

While depending mainly on its own efforts to build hydroelectric power stations, China also will consider co-operative technical and financial projects with foreign firms. The World Bank will provide a loan for China to build the Lubuge hydropower station in Yunnan Province, southwest China, which will have a generating capacity of 600,000 kw by utilizing a water head of 300 metres. China is ready for international public bidding for foreign technical co-operation. □

Priority to Developing Energy

by Our Correspondent Li Halbo

SINCE the founding of the People's Republic in 1949, China has seen its total generation of electricity grow 76.2-fold to 32,700 million kwh in 1982, ranking sixth in the world. This rate of growth far surpasses that for the total value of industrial and agricultural output, which rose 18.3-fold in the same period. The annual per-capita consumption of electricity has risen to 320 kwh from 8 kwh in 1949, and

power grids have now reached half of China's rural areas where there was no electricity at all before.

However, the power industry remains a weak link in the national economy. It is estimated that every year the shortage of electricity reduces China's possible industrial output value by 20 per cent. To solve this problem, the gov-

ernment has given priority to the development of the energy industry. Of the 70 key projects currently under construction, 13 are under the power industry. In the meantime, numerous small and medium-sized power stations are being built across the country. The situations in east China's Shandong and Zhejiang Provinces illustrate how local governments are organizing and developing their own power industries.

Capacity Increased

Shandong Province in eastern China is nearly the same size as the US state of Michigan, about 150,000 square kilometres, but has a population of 75 million. It lacks the appropriate water resources for hydroelectricity so almost all its power stations are thermal. Its first power station was built in 1888 in Qingdao by the Germans. By 1949 it had only 13 large power stations, with a meagre generating capacity totalling 109,000 kw. In 1970, Shandong's total generating capacity hit 924,000 kw and by 1981 it was at 3.644 million kw.

"The fundamental way out for our power industry lies in making technical innovations,

using new equipment and constantly expanding production capacity," said Zhou Jingzun, director of the provincial bureau of electric power industry.

With several large power stations built since the 1970s in Laiwu, Xindian, Jining, Zhanhua and Huangdao and more under construction or expansion, including those in Lunan, Longkou, Shiheng, Shiliquan and Huangtai, Shandong has become one of the provinces with the quickest developing power industries.

The province's largest, the newly built Shiliquan Power Plant in Zaozhuang, is equipped with five large generating sets, totalling 625,000 kw in generating capacity. With increased power supply the plant has put the production of many factories in its vicinity back to normalcy. In 1982, a new crop of factories sprang up there.

Various Methods

Zhejiang, like Shandong, is also a coastal province, but is two-thirds the size and has half the population. Nearly three-quarters of its land is mountainous with abundant water resources. Of a hydroelectric potential of 5 million kw that can be exploited, 1.75 million kw have already been harnessed.

The Xinanjiang Hydroelectric Station with an installed generating capacity of 662,500 kw was the first of its kind designed and built by China. It greatly relieved the power shortage in Zhejiang and nearby Shanghai when it was commissioned in 1960. But the shortage worsened in the following decade due to the fact that while industrial production kept growing steadily, no large power plants were being built.

Since 1979, the provincial power bureau has been developing thermal and hydroelectric stations side by side and building big, medium-sized and small ones simultaneously. Bringing in fuel through local seaports, the bureau has built two large thermal power plants with a

Locations of Major Power Plants in Shandong and Zhejiang Provinces





The coal-fired Shiliquan Power Plant in Shandong Province.

total generating capacity of 500,000 kw in the coastal areas of Zhenhai and Taizhou. This, plus the output from other power plants, means a 665,200-kw increase in the province's thermal power generating capacity in the past five years.

During the same period, Zhejiang has increased its hydroelectric generating capacity by 509,800 kw. In western Zhejiang, hydroelectric stations have been built on the Fuchun and Wuxi Rivers. In southern Zhejiang, the Jinshuitan Hydroelectric Station on the Cuijiang River is under construction; with a generating capacity of 200,000 kw, it will be completed in 1986.

Other energy resources are also being exploited in the province. The Jiangxia Tidal Power Station in eastern Zhejiang, for example, has begun operation, whose generating capacity will be gradually increased from today's 500 kw to 3,000 kw. In northeastern Zhejiang, the government has decided to build a nuclear power station on the Qinshan Mountain. On the Chengsi islands, wind-powered generators have also been installed. And a great number of county- and commune-run small hydropower stations have mushroomed throughout the province.

A local engineer proudly pointed to Zhejiang's power industry as an example of the "many methods of power generation the Chinese people have adopted."

Raising Funds

Legends say Penglai County in Shandong Province is where the Eight Immortals used their magic powers to cross the sea. Today the real

magic is electricity. The Caodian Production Brigade was formerly one of the poorest in the county, with an annual per-capita income of 164 yuan in 1977. But in 1982, since the brigade was supplied with electricity, it led the whole Penglai County with its per-capita income topping 800 yuan. The peasants have not only been able to use electric lights and enjoy television but have also built a woollen textile mill and a thread dyeing plant. The woollen textile mill alone brought them a profit of 1.2 million yuan last year.

Today 92 per cent of the county's brigades are supplied with electricity. However, because of the insufficient supply, they are only allowed limited amounts for limited times. To pool more funds and build more power stations has become the claim of both the people and local governments.

Fifty kilometres south of Penglai, the Longkou Power Plant is being built with state investment and the funds pooled by the local organizations. Of the 165 million yuan needed for the first phase of this project, which envisages an installed generating capacity of 200,000 kw, 60 million yuan were invested by the Ministry of Water and Electric Power, and the remaining 105 million yuan were pooled among local industrial and mining enterprises and production brigades by the sale of shares. The power plant will pay back the capital plus interests after it is completed and begins to make profit. This arrangement got an enthusiastic response and the shares were sold out quickly.

In Zhejiang, the peasants are encouraged to build their own small power stations. By the end of 1982, more than 6,000 such stations had been built in 57 of the province's 63 counties — half of them in the last four years — with a total generating capacity of 550,000 kw. Today, the annual generating capacity of small hydroelectric stations accounts for 11.36 per cent of the province's total and half the consumption in its rural areas.

"Small hydroelectric stations are usually built by the peasants with the support of the local governments," said Yuan, an engineer with the provincial electric power bureau. The general principle is he who has built and managed such a station should be the first to benefit from it. Sixty per cent of the funds needed in this endeavour are from communes and their members and the remainder is from the state.

Five Principles

Despite the rapid development of the energy industry, electric power is still insufficient in

the two provinces. In Zhejiang the annual per-capita power consumption is 270 kwh, below the national average of 320 kwh. In Shandong it is estimated there will be a shortfall of 3,000 million kwh this year. The situation in these two provinces is typical of the whole nation.

To encourage further development, the following five principles were set forth at a national conference on power industry held early this year: (1) Exploit hydroelectric potential as best we could; (2) Accelerate the construction of thermal power plants in coal mining areas; (3) Develop nuclear power stations in a proper way; (4) Develop power grids in a big way; and (5) Develop small hydroelectric stations and tap other energy resources in rural areas according to local conditions.

The state has earmarked 5,400 million yuan for power industry in 1983, the biggest sum since the founding of New China. "We are facing a lot of problems, the most urgent one being the lack of funds," said Qian Zhengying, Minister of Water and Electric Power. "To solve this problem, we'll rely mainly on our own efforts, but foreign investment is also welcome." □

Natural Disasters and Relief Work

by Our Correspondent Tian Yun

The following article is a brief overview of the natural disasters China suffered in 1983, the actions taken to relieve them, and China's attitudes towards domestic and international disaster relief aid. — Ed.

Disasters This Year

BECAUSE China is so big, and its climate and geographical conditions vary greatly from one place to another, natural disasters of different degrees occur every year. The natural disasters China has suffered so far this year, including flood, drought, windstorms and hailstorms, have been a little bit more serious than those of the past five years. According to initial statistics, by the end of August 420 million *mu* (one *mu* equals to one-fifteenth of a hectare) of crops were affected. Seven million houses were damaged, of which 2.7 million collapsed, 6,600 people died, and some water conservation, communications and power generating and transmit-

ting projects, mines and factories were destroyed.

While flooding this year has been more serious than in the past few years, drought in north China has not been as bad. In addition, a massive landslide on Sale Mountain in China's northwest Gansu Province on March 7 destroyed four villages in the Dongxiang Nationality Autonomous County.

Hubei, Hunan, Jiangxi, Anhui and Jiangsu Provinces on the middle and lower reaches of the Changjiang (Yangtze) River and Ankang County in Shaanxi Province suffered most from floods this year. For 18 days in late June and early July, it rained heavily throughout the middle and lower reaches of the Changjiang River. In some places, the precipitation over two or three days was as high as 600-800 mm. Massive flooding occurred, and the water level of the Changjiang River and some nearby rivers remained high for as long as two months. The



Policemen help the flood victims evacuate their homes in Ankang County, Shaanxi Province, last summer.

harvest of rice in the five provinces, the most important rice-producing area in China, was greatly reduced. The reduction, however, was offset by a bumper harvest of summer crops in the country as a whole. Coupled with efforts to fight natural disasters and minimize losses, the annual grain output this year is expected to surpass that of last year, which was an all-time high itself. The total value of agricultural output might also increase.

However, typhoons in the coastal areas, low temperatures in central China and early frost in north China might also adversely affect the output of late rice and autumn crops.

Preventive Measures

The government has allocated a large amount of labour and materials to combat possible natural calamities before they actually occur, in accordance with the forecasts of meteorological departments and actual local conditions.

For instance, a large force was organized to combat floods this year. In the five provinces on the middle and lower reaches of the Changjiang River, about 10 million people stood on guard day and night along the banks of the Changjiang River and some other rivers, as well as along large and medium-sized reservoirs. Leading cadres at various levels were assigned

certain sections of the river to look after. Trucks and other flood fighting materials were allocated along the watch areas. The PLA units sent large numbers of officers and soldiers to reinforce flood-prevention projects, and they were kept ready for all emergencies. Therefore, although the water level of the Changjiang River remained high for a long time, the major dams and reservoirs along it were not damaged. This preventive work played a vital role in minimizing the losses caused by flood.

In areas which were menaced by drought, the people dug canals and wells or carried water to save crops threatened by dry weather. In arid areas, they have now accumulated some experience in dealing with this problem.

Principle for Disaster Relief Work

China's disaster relief work operates under the principle of relying on the masses and the collectives, organizing the people to provide for and help themselves and each other by engaging in production, and giving state relief and support when necessary. While emphasizing self-reliance, civil administration departments at various levels earmark about 800 million yuan each year as special relief funds for people suffering from the effects of natural disasters. In the last few years, an average of 40 million people each year received these funds.

In the past few years, while still upholding the principle of self-reliance, some severely afflicted areas in China have received friendly aid from international organizations and the world community. China has also supplied what aid it could to countries which have suffered from serious natural disasters.

The Masses Combat Disaster

The Chinese Government pays great attention to organizing the masses to combat natural disasters. Take the floods this year for example. When disaster threatened in some places, leaders of the CPC Central Committee and the State Council personally went to severely affected areas to express their sympathy for the people there and guide the disaster relief work. The Party and government functionaries, servicemen and civilians worked together at many tasks.

First, they saved a large number of people stranded by flood. In June and July more than 4 million people were menaced by floods, and a great number of villages were besieged or inundated. Of these, more than 2.94 million were in direct danger, and had to be evacuated.

Second, leaders and the masses set up provisional living quarters for people in afflicted areas. The state sent a large number of airplanes to drop urgently needed food and supplied grain free of charge. People in institutions, schools, factories, enterprises and homes in the nearby areas were persuaded to vacate some of their premises to make room for evacuees. The state also sent them building materials to put up temporary shelters. The local governments and army units stationed nearby sent out large numbers of medical workers to look after the disaster victims and prevent epidemic diseases. Thus looked after, the morale of the evacuees remained high and the social order was stable.

Third, relief workers organized the masses to help themselves by quickly resuming production. The state supplied people in the disaster-afflicted areas with a large amount of seeds, irrigation and drainage equipment and fuel, and organized them to drain water from the flooded fields for rush-planting and to strengthen efforts to save damaged crops. In this way, Anhui, Hubei and Jiangxi Provinces each saved more than 10 million *mu* of crops. At the same time, servicemen and civilians all over the country lent active support to the disaster-ridden areas. People living nearby gave some of their land to peasants in flooded areas for nursing rice seedlings, and some families even saved their rice seedlings for the disaster victims.

Disaster relief materials are rushed to afflicted Ankang.



At present, people in the affected areas are making efforts to restore production and rebuild their homes. Most of the water conservation, communications and telecommunications facilities which were damaged by the flood were repaired and returned to use within two months after the floods.

Since 1980, production has been restored within one year in all the areas affected by serious natural disasters, and the people's need for basic daily necessities has always been met.

Improving Our Ability to Fight Disaster

Fighting natural disasters is an extremely complicated job. In the last few years, the state has increased investment for harnessing its rivers, devoted much attention to righting the serious ecological imbalance caused by wanton felling of trees (a phenomenon left over from the "cultural revolution"), increased reforestation and encouraged people to grow crops suited to local conditions and improve their methods of cultivation in areas susceptible to flood and drought. All these efforts have achieved good results.

We will continue all these efforts in the future. The state is now going ahead with comprehensive plans for tackling problems in the areas prone to natural disasters. For instance, the state is quickly changing the damaging practice of felling trees and opening up wilderness just for growing grain in the dry areas of north China, especially northwest China. It has advocated growing grass and trees instead, so as to combine agriculture with forestry and animal husbandry. This will effect a fundamental improvement in the ecological balance and play a vital role in preventing and combating natural disasters. In order to help the masses gradually bring about such a change, beginning from this year, the state has set aside special funds for some regions.

At the same time, leading departments concerned will study and draw on their experiences in preventing and combating natural disasters since liberation to acquire a better understanding of the law of natural disasters in different regions. On the basis of investigations and study, they will make a plan for economic construction and improvement of the people's living conditions in areas hit by disasters. They will also study the problem of how to lead the peasants to do an even better job in storing up grain and pooling funds against natural disasters. □

The Democratic Parties in Action

by Our Staff Writer Tong Yi

NOW comes a golden age to serve the country, and I'll pull myself together and do my best." Hu Juewen told General Secretary Hu Yaobang of the Chinese Communist Party last year. This was more than just the personal sentiments and political enthusiasm of the 88-year-old Chairman of the Central Committee of the China Democratic National Construction Association and Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC). His statement expressed the feelings of many other members of China's democratic parties.

Over the past five years, these democratic parties have become increasingly active. The posi-

tive roles they play in China's political and economic affairs have become more and more evident.

In China, besides the ruling Communist Party of China (CPC), there are eight other parties commonly referred to as the democratic parties. They are: the Revolutionary Committee of the Kuomintang, the China Democratic League, the China Democratic National Construction Association, the China Association for Promoting Democracy, the Chinese Peasants' and Workers' Democratic Party, the China Zhi Gong Dang, the Jiu San Society and the Taiwan Democratic Self-Government League.

at home and abroad. They share the credit for the success of the socialist transformation. They played an important part in strengthening national unity, consolidating the people's democratic dictatorship and promoting the development of the socialist cause.

Due to sabotage by the Lin Biao and Jiang Qing counter-revolutionary cliques, the democratic parties were forced to suspend their activities and many of their members were persecuted during the "cultural revolution" (1966-78). It was only after the downfall of the gang of four in 1976, and especially since the Third Plenum of the 11th Party Central Committee in December 1978, that things were set to right and the democratic parties resumed their work.

Changes in Character

ALL eight democratic parties developed during the War of Resistance Against Japan (1937-45) and the War of Liberation (1946-49). Originally, these parties acted in the interests of the petty bourgeoisie (such as small traders, master handicraftsmen, etc.) in the cities, the national bourgeoisie (China's middle class), the intellectuals and patriotic democrats who were associated with them or shared their views. Their political programmes were to varying degrees anti-imperialist, anti-feudalist during the democratic revolution. In political practice, they usually co-operated with the CPC. This shows that the democratic parties in China were not pure bourgeois parties, but have always been united

front organizations based on class alliances.

Throughout the democratic revolution, these parties all made notable contributions to the founding of New China. Step by step, they nourished their co-operative relations with the CPC, under the influence of its united front policy. Working together, they urged those in social classes similar to their own members to take an active part in patriotic democratic activities and in the people's democratic revolution led by the CPC.

After liberation in 1949, under CPC leadership, members of each of these eight democratic parties joined the struggle against national enemies both

In the new historical period of socialist construction, China's society (excluding Taiwan and a few other places) has undergone a fundamental change. The exploiting classes no longer exist, and most, if not all, of the democratic party members have become working-class intellectuals and socialist labourers. They have shown ever-increasing agreement with the CPC in political affairs. With the CPC, they have a common interest and common political programme to build China into a modern socialist country.

The Guidelines of the CPC

In 1956, when the socialist transformation of private ownership of the means of production was completed, the CPC

Central Committee implemented guidelines for long-term coexistence and mutual supervision between itself and the democratic parties. In 1982, the 12th National Party Congress reaffirmed these guidelines and also proposed that the parties be straightforward with each other and share weal and woe of the country. This has further strengthened the co-operative ties between the CPC and the democratic parties.

Following these guidelines, the democratic parties became more and more active, and began to work more independently for the realization of socialist modernization and the reunification of the motherland.

This long-term, multi-faceted co-operation, under the leadership of the CPC, is a characteristic and an advantage of China's political system. The building of socialism in this country has many distinctive Chinese features, and such co-operation is one of the features in the political field. Moreover, it is an important contribution to Marxist-Leninist theory on united front work.

Unlike the Soviet Union and some other countries which have only one party, our multi-partisan co-operation enables the democratic parties to join the ruling CPC in fulfilling the socialist cause. Instead of forming opposition groups such as

those under the Western capitalist multi-party system, they have established a new type of relationship between political parties under the socialist system, working in close co-operation with the Communist Party on the basis of the four cardinal principles.

All the democratic parties include in their party constitutions the principle of following the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party. This is achieved through correct guidelines and principles, democratic consultations and ideological work. The CPC respects the political freedom enjoyed by the democratic parties within the framework of the Constitution of

For Your Reference

A Brief Introduction to the Democratic Parties

Revolutionary Committee of the Kuomintang. The patriotic and democratic members of the former Kuomintang founded two organizations — the San Min Zhu Yi (the Three People's Principles) Comrades' Federation and the Kuomintang Association for Promoting Democracy — in 1945 and 1946 respectively. On January 1, 1948 the two organizations joined together to form the Revolutionary Committee of the Kuomintang. The majority of its members are former Kuomintang members and those who have had historical connections with the Kuomintang in the cultural, educational, health and financial fields.

China Democratic League. In September 1944, the China Democratic League grew out of the China League of Democratic Political Organizations, which had been set up in 1941. Its members are mostly intellectuals working in the fields of culture, education and science.

China Democratic National Construction Association. Founded in December 1945, its members are mainly former industrialists and businessmen and intellectuals connected with them.

China Association for Promoting Democracy. This association was established in December 1945 and is composed mainly of teachers and staff of primary and middle schools and people working in the fields of culture and publications.

Chinese Peasants' and Workers' Democratic Party. Its predecessor, the Provisional Action Committee of the Kuomintang, was founded in August 1930. In February 1947, this committee changed its name into the Chinese Peasants' and Workers' Democratic Party. Most of its members work in the field of public health and medicine.

China Zhi Gong Dang. It was formerly an organization formed by some members of the Hongmen Zhi Gong Tang among compatriots in Xianggang and overseas Chinese. In 1948, the China Zhi Gong Dang resumed its activities in Xianggang and later moved its headquarters to Guangzhou. Most of its members are returned overseas Chinese and their relatives.

Jiu San Society. The society grew out of the Democratic and Science Society — a political organization of people in the academic circles. To commemorate the victories of the War of Resistance Against Japan and the worldwide anti-fascist war, the society changed its name to the Jiu San Society on September 3, 1945. Its members are mostly noted scientists and technologists.

Taiwan Democratic Self-Government League. Founded in November 1947, its members are mainly natives of Taiwan Province who live on the mainland of China.

All-China Federation of Industry and Commerce. This is a people's organization composed of industrialists and businessmen all over the country and was founded in October 1953. It is composed of socialist labourers in the former industrial and commercial circles, and patriots who support and wish to reunify our socialist motherland.



Zhan Shaowen (left) discusses teaching problems with the leading members of the Qianjiang Spare-Time School.

the People's Republic of China, as well as their organizational independence and legal equality. The CPC adopts a policy of not interfering in the organization and work of these parties. It believes that the socialist cause is the cause of the people of the whole country. Thus, it can only be accomplished through the national unity of all available forces. The CPC also believes that until all class distinctions vanish and the CPC is no longer needed, it must co-operate with the democratic parties.

Role in Political Arena

The Chinese Communist Party and the democratic parties supervise and consult with each other concerning major state affairs. This co-operation extends to the National People's Congress, the state government and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC). There are democratic party members in the people's congresses at all levels, some of whom have such high posts as vice-chairmen of the NPC and deputy chairmen of the people's congresses in the various prov-

inces, municipalities and autonomous regions. Quite many of them hold leading posts in the government organizations, enterprises and other undertakings. Many more of them make up a large proportion of the vice-chairmen and standing committee members of the national and local people's political consultative conferences

Since the Chinese democratic parties' membership changed to comprise mostly socialist labourers who wish to serve the country's socialist construction, they have ever more closely integrated their future with the people's interests, and have thus opened a brighter prospect for their own development.

Most democratic party members are intellectuals who have advanced skills and rich experience. Many of them are specialists, scholars and the mainstay in their field of work. For instance, more than 40 per

throughout the country. For instance, there are 692 democratic party members in the 6th National CPPCC Committee, 34 per cent of the total.

The democratic parties have a say in all major state affairs. Their responsible members attended the 12th National Congress of the CPC last year as observers. The leaders of these parties sat on the commission which revised the Constitution, and they made helpful suggestions and proposals concerning state affairs, including policies concerning intellectuals, educational reforms and national economic readjustment.

Their work and activities have been appreciated and supported by the CPC Central Committee and the State Council. Hu Yaobang, Zhao Ziyang and other leading comrades passed their suggestions on to various government organizations for consideration. This has helped enliven the political atmosphere in China and furthered the inter-Party supervision.

Efforts to Modernize China

cent of the members of the General Assembly of the Chinese Academy of Sciences are democratic party members. These parties have become a kind of think tank, with experts in many disciplines who have helped prepare the country for the modernization drive.

For instance, the China Democratic National Construction Association and the All-China Federation of Industry and Commerce (a non-political organization) have been able to share their administrative and technical know-how in industrial areas.

The China Democratic League and the China Association for Promoting Democracy are concerned with advancing Chinese culture and education.

The Jiu San Society lends its special expertise in scientific and technological fields, and the Chinese Peasants' and Workers' Democratic Party offers consulting services in medicine and hygiene.

Technical Consultation

The democratic parties draw on the technical know-how of their members to assist in state and local projects. By carrying out comprehensive investigations in many fields such as resources exploitation, urban construction, city planning, agricultural development, traditional Chinese medicine and medicinal herbs, they have been able to make many suggestions which have proved quite fruitful.

Take the dredging of Maweigang, one of Fujian's six biggest ports, for example. Because planners paid little attention to the technicians' advice on con-

struction during the "cultural revolution," the location of the port proved unsuitable and the depth of the berths did not meet with the designed standard. Shortly after its completion in 1975, silt build-up began to cause serious problems. Although the port was designed to berth two 10,000-ton ships and two 5,000-ton ships, in fact, even a 1,000-ton ship could not dock there. Between 1975 and 1980, the provincial government had to dredge the port four times. But without technical consultation, the silt problem remained unsolved and the Maweigang port was falling into disuse.

When the authorities finally did seek technical help, they received many divergent opinions. They intended to ask some renowned port experts for help, but found this was not easy either. When news of their dilemma reached the Fujian Provincial Committee of the Democratic League, it was decided to invite an expert from among the League members. Consequently, Zhao Jinsheng, a

noted port expert and vice-president of Tianjin University, went to Maweigang to help, although he was already in his eighties.

Professor Zhao investigated the port in March 1982. He concluded that 10,000-ton ships could dock in Maweigang provided the authorities could "check the water and attack the sand."

Zhao's dredging plan was acclaimed by experts throughout the country, and was used in the port's renovation.

"The four deep-water berths have been saved," said Huang Shiliang, engineer of the navigation administration bureau, with relief. After a year of renovation, 3,000-5,000 tonners can now dock at the port all the time, and 10,000-ton ships can enter the berths during high tide. The handling capacity of the port in 1982 was 4.3 times that of the previous year.

The successful consultation has encouraged the League's Provincial Committee and opened new avenues for it to serve the modernization drive. Recently, from among Beijing and Tianjin League members, it invited specialists in city planning and design to consult on Fujian's urban construction programmes. It will also organize experts among the Democratic League to discuss how to build Fujian into a base for forestry, animal husbandry, fish breeding, light and textile industries and foreign trade.

Intellectual Help in Frontier Areas

As a result of uneven economic development, there is a big gap between China's developed and underdeveloped areas. Most of the backward areas are mountainous or border regions



Kang Jianqiu (right), deputy director of the women's section of the Wuhan municipal committee of the China Democratic National Construction Association, works in a normal school for nursery teachers.

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inhabited by minority nationalities. Although the state government spends hundreds of millions of yuan every year to develop these areas, their economic and cultural levels are still rather low.

Starting in 1981, the democratic parties have made great intellectual contributions in these regions, mainly by giving lectures and training teachers.

This year, the China Democratic League, the China Association for Promoting Democracy, the Chinese Peasants' and Workers' Democratic Party, the China Democratic National Construction Association, the Jiu San Society and the Revolutionary Committee of the Kuomintang have agreed to provide consulting services for economic construction in Xinjiang, Gansu, Ningxia, Guizhou and Yunnan provinces and autonomous regions. More than 200 agreements have been reached to train minority peoples and give lectures in those areas to help develop the minority economies. The CPC Central Committee and the State Council have issued special circulars to support these activities.

Sanming Prefecture, located in northwestern Fujian Province, east China, is a mountainous area. It has only 171 middle schools (including 94 that have only junior classes) for its 2.1 million people. There are 4,596 full-time teachers in the prefecture, less than 30 for each middle school. Some of the teachers are not professionally competent, and the general level of education is rather low.

In October 1982, supported by the schools concerned, the Fujian Democratic League selected five experienced teachers from among its members to lecture in this prefecture. During their six-day tour, they gave 11 lectures and held two forums, attracting 30 per cent of the teachers in the area. Educators in the mountainous area welcome this kind of activity, and hope the Democratic League can do more to help them in the future.

According to Liang Zhuang, deputy secretary-general of the provincial Democratic League, all 1,400 members are actively engaged in similar activities. By August of this year, a plan to

send the third group of teachers to Sanming Prefecture had been worked out. Some Democratic League members are busy preparing for a course to train primary school teachers in an area of eastern Fujian inhabited by the Shes, the only minority nationality in the province. Still others have taken on the task of training middle school teachers for minority nationalities in the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region.

Continuing Education

The democratic parties are famous for their efforts in continuing education

Many of the democratic party members, two-thirds of the China Democratic League members for example, are educators. During the past years, as discovering and training talented people has been increasingly emphasized, the democratic parties have sponsored various spare-time schools, training courses and continuation classes. They do not ask the government for any funds, classrooms or teachers. Teachers in these parties, including many who have retired, have been teaching in these schools and courses enthusiastically.

The Revolutionary Committee of the Kuomintang sponsored more than 10 of them, teaching 60,000 students. The China Democratic National Construction Association, with the help from the All-China Federation of Industry and Commerce, opened 60 schools and 900 training seminars, which have graduated 60,000 students and enrolled another 50,000 this year. The China Democratic League opened more than 100 schools with 80,000 students.

The Qianjiang Spare-Time School in Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province, is one of the 27 sponsored by the democratic

The Central Committee of the China Democratic League holds a tea-party for 66 of its members who work in the academic society of the Chinese Academy of Sciences to encourage their efforts.





Dai Jinsheng (left), vice-chairman of the Wuhan municipal committee of the China Democratic League, presides over a League-sponsored special cultural school.

parties in the province. Zhan Shaowen, 66, vice-chairman of the Zhejiang Provincial Federation of Industry and Commerce and head of the school, spoke about his school.

It was set up in April 1979 by the Zhejiang Democratic National Construction Association and the Federation of Industry and Commerce, with a donation of 100,000 yuan from some members of the Democratic National Construction Association. They rented 10 classrooms and a 10-square-metre teachers' office from a downtown middle school. Obviously, it was not easy to open a spare-time school.

But the young people who had lost their chance to study during the "cultural revolution" were all willing to attend the school. Now although it has grown from four sections of 456 students to 18 sections with 6,300 students, it still cannot satisfy the demands of all the young people in the city for more education.

Most of the students are in their twenties, and 80 per cent are workers or staff members. They all study very hard. One of them, Wu Qionghua, 43, pedals to school in a hand-controlled wheelchair bicycle. She works in a shop as the accountants' group leader. Over the

past four years her attendance in class has been 95 per cent, despite her disability and obvious difficulties manoeuvring in traffic. She plans to study Japanese for another two years, completing a set college course.

The school has only 29 administrators, 0.46 per cent of the total number of teachers and students. Most of them are retired members of the Democratic National Construction Association and the Federation of Industry and Commerce. They receive little income from the school.

Up to now more than 2,500 people have graduated from the school and specialized in various professions. Of the 181 foreign language graduates, 35 are employed by the provincial bureau of foreign trade and the Bank of China.

Reunification of the motherland. The democratic parties are making efforts to bring about

the reunification of the motherland. They have an advantage because they have extensive contacts with, and influence among, overseas Chinese and compatriots from Taiwan, Xianggang and Aomen. In recent years, they have welcomed those overseas Chinese who come to visit their homes, and helped them get in touch with many friends.

Increasing membership. After their resumption, the eight democratic parties have recruited more than 50,000 new members and their present total membership is an all-time high. These parties have some 800 local and more than 5,000 grass-roots organizations in 28 provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions (except for Tibet) on the mainland. Their membership includes renowned specialists, scholars, scientists, technicians, educators, cultural and medical workers, artists as well as patriotic personages. Quite a few of them are middle-aged.

New members are usually recruited by grass-roots branches of the party organizations. Through the help and observations of the party members, a person who applies for membership and has a good understanding of the party's philosophy can be admitted. If there are no branches at grass-roots units, applicants will be approved by a party's provincial or municipal committee.

New Members of China Democratic League

THE China Democratic League is the largest of the eight democratic parties. It began recruiting new members again in 1980, after 23 years of suspending its organizational develop-

ment, and has quickly expanded. Since 1980, about 14,300 people have joined the League. Most of them are intellectuals in cultural and educational fields, and 71 per cent of its

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members are young people and adults under the age of 55.

Recently, our correspondent spoke with several new members recruited by the Beijing Committee of the China Democratic League.

Although they had different reasons for joining the League, all of them have a love for socialism and are willing to devote their lives to China's modernization drive.

A High-Minded Woman

Lin Zi, 32, is a female socialist with China's Coal Mine Art Troupe, who has recently become a member of the China Democratic League. Lin's parents were teachers, and both had been League members for many years.

In Lin's mind, her late father was an honest man. Before 1949, he led students in fighting against the dark rule of the Kuomintang and after liberation, he was a hardworking sports teacher. When she was a child, she had spent a lot of time at the sports grounds with her father.

Perhaps because her parents exerted an imperceptible influence on her, she has a natural inclination towards the Democratic League. In June 1982, when a member of the League in her art troupe gave her an application form, she accepted it without hesitation.

However, when she thought again, she hesitated. Because her parents-in-law have been Communist Party members since the 1930s, she wondered if they would understand her decision. If she joined the League, would her relations with her husband and in-laws become strained? Finally, she decided to write to her mother for advice. In her mother's reply, she did not answer Lin's questions, but only

give her some materials about the League. Her mother hoped Lin could make her own choice.

At about this time, Lin was invited by the Democratic League to give benefit performances sponsored by the Chinese Children's Fund Association. During the performances, Lin met many great artists, who were all high-minded League members. She learnt a lot by talking freely with them, and has since attended some symposiums and activities sponsored by the Democratic League. These interesting activities helped her make up her mind, and, this January she submitted her application form to the troupe's Democratic League branch. Her request was granted in early February, when the Beijing municipal committee of the Democratic League adopted her as its member.

Lin Zi happily told our correspondent, "The Democratic League has many people who are dedicated to the modernization drive. I joined the organization because I can learn much more from them. I will be a high-minded intellectual like my father."

Old Professor's Aspiration

Seventy-five-year-old philosophy professor Zhang Dainian is a new member of the Democratic League at Beijing University.

Before he joined the League, Zhang was not involved at all in politics. In pre-liberation days he never took part in political activities, preferring to study philosophical theory with single-minded devotion. After liberation, he continued in this field. In 1957, his two books, *The Outlines of China's Philosophy* and *The Brief History of China's Materialistic Thought*, were published. But, because China's political life was abnor-

mal in the 20 years after 1957, especially during the "cultural revolution," he was wrongly accused and had to give up his philosophical studies.

Professor Zhang became interested in politics only after the Third Plenary Session of the Party's 11th Central Committee in December 1978. He noticed that the Party had corrected its erroneous "Left" line of thought, and the state had undergone a series of important reforms. At the same time, the wrong accusation of "Rightist" made against him in 1957 was also corrected. This rekindled his enthusiasm to serve his country. In 1981, he made up his mind to apply for League membership.

He said he has long had good feelings towards the Democratic League. "I quite agree with the League's views and propositions. Now, the Chinese Communist Party has made an effort to develop socialist democracy. The Democratic League should take the lead in carrying forward socialist democracy. I hope my efforts will count for something in this task."

Not long after he joined the League, Zhang was chosen to head the Learned Society of China's History of Philosophy, and became a member of the board of the Learned Society of Ethics. This has heightened his enthusiasm for his studies.

In 1982, another two of his books came off the press. In addition to helping two post-graduates gain doctor's degrees, he is working hard to publish another book this year.

He told our correspondent sincerely, "I'm really not a good member of the League. I don't take part in many activities. I hope I can work for 10 more years, and make a bigger contribution to the modernization drive." □

COSTUME

*Change and
development*

Most people are interested in clothing and adornment, not only because they are an inseparable part of everyone's daily life, but also because they are hallmarks of a given civilization.

To satisfy those who have a special interest in Chinese adornment, a new book, *Chinese Clothing and Adornment in Various Dynasties*, was recently compiled by a group researching the history of Chinese clothing at the Shanghai Traditional Opera School. With 1,000 illustrations, some based on designs appearing on historical relics or described in classical literature, the book recounts the development of China's clothing in great detail.

During the Warring States Period, when many schools of thought were contending, a lot of new styles of clothing emerged. Styles continued to develop during the Sui and Tang Dynasties, when the state was unified and the economy prospered. The clothing became increasingly luxurious and daring, with some low-cut clothes beginning to appear. But beginning from the Song Dynasty,

as feudal values were emphasized, the styles of clothing became conservative. By the end of the Qing Dynasty, influenced by Western culture, China's clothing was simpler and more convenient.

Despite the wide variety in design, colour and style during the last 5,000 years, Chinese clothing can be divided into two main styles. One is a two-piece suit that comprises a coat and a pair of trousers; the other is a one-piece robe. The two styles developed side by side.

Before the Shang and Zhou Dynasties people usually wore coats and trousers. One-piece clothing first appeared at the end of the Spring and Autumn Period and the beginning of the Warring States Period. The robe was first called a *shenyi* (long coat) and developed into a *pao* (gown) later on. The two-piece clothes, mainly worn by women, lasted for a very long time. Men since the Sui and Tang Dynasties mainly wore one-piece robes.

The designs adorning clothes were usually geometric repre-



The phoenix robe design worn by the Queen in the Qing Dynasty (painted according to the preserved relic).



Clothing of ancient Chinese women in each dynasty (from left to right): Han, Wei, Tang, Song, Yuan, Ming and Qing.

sentations of animals and plants. They gradually developed from abstract symbols to standardized realistic figures. The patterns before the Shang and Zhou Dynasties, like the original forms of the Chinese characters, were simple and abstract. In the later periods, especially in the Tang and Song Dynasties, the designs gradually became neat, harmonious and symmetrical. During the Ming and Qing Dynasties, a realistic style of expression was stressed. The designs of blossoming flowers and fluttering butterflies were so vivid that people would rather believe they had just been collected and sewn on.

Different dynasties had different tastes in colour for clothing. Black was considered a sign of dignity and wealth in the Qin Dynasty, but it was replaced by yellow since the Han Dynasty, which also served as a symbol of central authority. Colours were also looked upon as symbols of the four directions; blue meant the east, red meant the south, white meant the west and black meant the north. In some dynasties, some colours were designated as "official colours," which could be worn by the emperors and their officials only. Common people were only allowed to wear blended colours.

As the economy and culture developed, people's understanding of and tastes in colour changed. Complex mixed colours eventually replaced striking and simple ones. Red-yellow, yellow-green and green-blue combinations were increasingly applied instead of strikingly contrasted mixes such as red-green, yellow-violet and blue-orange. The colours of clothes with these complex contrasts became softer and more harmonious.

China is a multi-racial coun-

try, and clothes and adornment of the minority nationalities are usually even more colourful and stylish than those of the Hans. Most of them pay much attention to border designs at the collar and cuffs and on the front part of a coat, giving a full display to their unique talents.

The clothing and adornment of each nationality have influenced one another during the evolution of Chinese clothing. After the Kingdom of Wei and the Jin Dynasty, more and more northern nationalities moved to central China as a result of successive wars. Their light and convenient clothing was once rather popular among the Han people. *Qipao*, a Chinese-style dress which is still worn by Chinese women, is developed from the clothing of the Manchus.

ARCHAEOLOGY

5,000-year-old sacrificial site

The ruins of a group of fairly large sacrificial altars dating back more than 5,000 years has been excavated in Harqin Zuoyi

Mongolian Autonomous County in northeast China's Liaoning Province.

A well-known archaeologist, Professor Su Bingqi of the Institute of Archaeology of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, said after an on-the-spot inspection, "This site belongs to the Hongshan Culture of the neolithic age. It is the first time such a well-preserved site has been discovered in China."

A complex of stone buildings covering an area of more than 2,000 square metres stand on the site. Pottery painted with Z-shaped patterns, dragon and bird jade ornaments, and a clay sculpture of a woman have been unearthed.

Archaeologists believe this discovery and other bronze ware and cultural relics unearthed earlier in the area will be of great value in historical studies. They can shed light on the origins of Chinese civilization and the social culture and history of northern China from remote times to the unification of China under the Qin Dynasty (221-207 B.C.).

Excavations began at the site in 1979. Eighteen other archaeologists have also inspected the site.



Preparing the horse skeletons for exhibition.

Woodcuts by Dong Kejun



Tending Ducks.



Holiday Makers in a Dong Nationality Village.

A native of Chongqing in Sichuan Province, Dong Kejun, 44, is a staff member of the Guiyang People's Art Centre in Guizhou Province.

Dong taught himself the techniques of woodcutting. He is good at catching the beauty of nature, and his work is full of life. He has drawn on the traditions of Han Dynasty engraving, folk arts and Western painting to create his unique style.



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